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(54) An improved process for producing a rapidly water-soluble, free-flowing, sugar-free dry beverage mix.

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Description**BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION**

- 5 The present invention relates to an improved process for producing a rapidly water-soluble, free-flowing, substantially sugar-free dry beverage mix utilizing the initial step of an intimate dry mixing procedure of the combination of coarse particles of rapidly water-soluble food acids and the fine particles of a slow water-soluble flavor and flow conditioner wherein on intimate mixing with each other produces a uniformly dispersed composition and the resulting dispersed combination is thoroughly mixed and dispersed with a
10 malto-dextrin having coarse particles, a product is obtained which rapidly dissolves in water providing the desired ready-to-drink beverage. A preferred process of the invention is the addition of an artificial sweetener such as the methyl ester of L-aspartyl-L-phenylalanine (APM) with the malto-dextrin into the first intimately mixed ingredients of food acids, flavors and flow conditioner, and intimately dry mixed until a beverage product is produced which rapidly dissolves in water.
15 In the production of dry beverage mixes, it has always been important to provide a product which dissolves rapidly and if a clouding agent is present, it is essential that the clouding agent is rapidly and permanently dispersed as well. When sugar is used as a sweetener, the amount of sugar present in the beverage is large enough so that the sugar bulk goes rapidly in solution taking the slowly soluble ingredients such as flavors, clouding agents anti-caking agents and the like into solution. Without sugar
20 present, it has always been a problem to dry mix ingredients which have a slow rate of dissolution including the flavors and especially in combination with the high potency artificial sweeteners such as APM, cyclamates, saccharines and the like to provide a dry beverage mix which on reconstitution rapidly dissolves in water. If the ingredients such as clouding agents, flavors, anti-caking agents and the like in a beverage mix are not rapidly dissolved or easily dispersed, the product is not considered desirable by the
25 consumer.

A further limitation of the artificial sweeteners such as APM is the flowability of the sweeteners when intermixed with other powdery materials. The flowability of the sweeteners in granular mixtures with food acids such as citric acid and other beverage mix ingredients such as flavors and the like, is poor in that it tends to bridge the remaining ingredients such that the mix will not flow readily or discharge through high speed packaging equipment. It has been stated that even when the sweeteners are ground or it is coground with other materials serving as dispersants, the ultimate mix containing such a composition leaves much to be desired in terms of the flowability since the composition tends to pack or bridge.

To overcome the problems of flowability and the slow rate of dissolution and limited solubility of the beverage mixes in aqueous systems, many proposals have been suggested. In U.S. Patent No. 3,928,633 issued December 23, 1975 and U.S. Patent No. 4,004,079 issued January 18, 1977, both assigned to General Foods Corporation, APM is discretely dispersed throughout a matrix by melting a fusible mass and subdividing it to encapsulate the APM therein. The matrix can be a class of amorphous acids such as citric acid; polyhydric alcohols such as sorbitol; starch hydrolyzates such as corn syrup and the like. The encapsulated APM increases its rate of solubility and dry mix flowability. In U.S. Patent No. 3,761,288 issued September 25, 1973 and U.S. Patent No. 4,001,456 issued January 4, 1977, both assigned to General Foods Corporation, describe a process for significantly increasing the rate of solution of dipeptide sweetening compounds by codrying or spray-drying an aqueous solution of an edible bulking agent and the dipeptide sweetening compound. U.S. Patent No. 4,001,448 issued January 4, 1977 assigned to General Foods, describes the steam agglomeration of a dry beverage mix while combining monocalcium - dicalcium phosphate with a food acid such as citric, malic and the like to permit easy flow of materials and avoiding fines of the beverage which have to be recycled. U.S. Patent No. 4,007,288 Issued February 8, 1977 assigned to General Foods Corporation, describes the production of readily soluble sweetening compositions by vacuum drum drying solutions of an edible bulking agent and a dipeptide sweetening agent. All of the above processes which utilize a form of agglomeration of various ingredients provide satisfactory products which are readily water-soluble and readily flowable in their dry form.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Without agglomerating ingredients as described above, a process has been discovered which provides
55 a rapidly water-soluble free-flowing, substantially sugar-free dry beverage mix. This is achieved in the first step by intimately physically mixing the ingredients of at least one rapid water-soluble food acid having coarse particles with at least one flavor and at least one flow conditioner both having fine particles and both having a slow rate of dissolution in water, for a period of time until a substantially uniform dispersion of all

the ingredients is achieved and then in a second step intimately mixing the substantially uniform dispersion product of the first step with a malto-dextrin having coarse particles and dextrose equivalency in the range from about 10 to about 20, said mixing continued until the resulting mixed product is rapidly water-soluble. Another aspect of the invention is to incorporate an artificial sweetener such as APM, cyclamates, saccharines and the like into the second step of mixing with the malto-dextrin to achieve an intimately mixed mixture of all the ingredients used in both step one and two. The resulting product is a rapidly water-soluble, free-flowing dry beverage mix. The term "coarse particles" as used herein means that a 100% of the particles pass through a U.S. screen size of 2.00 mm (10 mesh) and up to about 95% remains on a U.S. screen size of 150 µm (100 mesh). The term "finely divided particles" as used herein means that a 100% of the particles passes through a U.S. screen size of 850 µm (20 mesh) and up to about 75 to 100% through the U.S. screen size of 150 µm (100 mesh) and about 40 to 100% through the U.S. screen size of 75 µm (200 mesh). The term "rapidly water-soluble" as used herein means that the water-soluble materials rapidly dissolve and the clouding agent, if present, readily disperses according to the following test: 10 cubic centimeters of raw material ingredient is added to 150 milliliters of water at 4 °C and hand stirred. If the water-soluble material dissolves without clumping within 5 seconds, the material is considered a rapidly water-soluble ingredient. If clumping or if the water-soluble material does not dissolve in seconds, the term "slow water soluble" as used herein is applied to the ingredient.

DETAILS OF THE INVENTION

A unique process has been discovered to produce a rapidly water-soluble, free-flowing, substantially sugar-free dry beverage mix comprising initially of intimately dry mixing coarse particles of a rapidly water-soluble of at least one food acid with finely divided particles of slow-water soluble of at least one flavor and generally at least one flow conditioner. The mixing is continued until a substantially uniform dispersion of the food acid, flavor and flow conditioner is obtained. At this point, the mixture is further intimately dry mixed with a malto-dextrin having coarse particles alone or in combination with APM which is normally finely divided particles or coarse particles to obtain a rapidly water-soluble, free-flowing, substantially sugar-free dry beverage mix. It is essential to utilize at least two separate mixing steps to achieve the appropriate effects. The substantially uniform dispersion of the various ingredients can be visually observed by one skilled in the art. The ultimate test is that the final beverage product is rapidly water-soluble.

The solid edible bulking agents suitable for use in this invention may be any of the non-toxic substances or combination of substances heretofore employed by the prior art for this purpose including the organic food acids such as citric, malic, tartaric, and the like and the hydrolyzed starch materials such as dextrans and sugars. Especially suitable among these solid bulking agents are the dextrans particularly the lower dextrose equivalent (D.E.) dextrans of the class commonly known as corn syrup solids.

The malto-dextrin material used for the production of these dry beverage mixes must dissolve easily in water to produce a clear solution and must be non-hygroscopic. The dextrin material must have a sufficiently low molecular weight to be easily soluble in water and to produce a clear solution so that the final product will have the essential reflecting surfaces in order to give the appearance of a crystalline product. On the other hand, the molecular weight of the dextrin material must be high enough so that hygroscopicity is avoided.

Accordingly, it has been determined that the dextrin material should have a D.E. (Dextrose Equivalent) in the range from about 5 to about 20 and preferably in the range of about 8 to 15. The 9 to 12 D.E. dextrans are particularly preferred where these bulking agents are combined with an organic acid such as citric acid since these dextrans are the most stable when combined with acids. Additionally, it has been found that the best results are obtained if the dextrin material contains little or no monosaccharide (i.e., glucose) and contains an irregular distribution of the other lower (one to eight saccharide units) saccharides with a preponderance of the hexamer and heptamer. Such corn syrup dextrans have been produced by means of enzymatic hydrolysis of starch.

The amount of food acids present in the total beverage mix ranges from about 40 to about 90 weight percent, preferably from about 50 to about 80 weight percent. The amount of malto-dextrin in the total beverage mix ranges from about 0.5 to about 8 weight percent, preferably from about 2 to about 5 weight percent. Both the acid foods and malto-dextrin used in this invention are classified as rapidly water-soluble coarse particles.

The flow conditioners used in this invention are finely divided, slowly water-soluble products. In the manufacture of dry beverage mixes which have flavor, coloring and artificial sweeteners, these mixes will be packaged under moderately controlled, low-relative humidity, ambient room temperature conditions whereby the mix as packaged will be free-flowing and respond to variations in the flow properties thereof without

undue changes in the physical properties. In the manufacture of acid-based beverage products, it is useful to add flow conditioners such as magnesium oxide, tricalcium phosphate, monocalcium phosphate, dicalcium phosphate food grade silicon dioxide, sodium silicate and the like. These flow conditioners can be used in amounts from about 0.05% to about 5% by weight of the total mix. In a beverage mix, color is extremely important. A coloring agent can be added to the mix. Another technique is to color plate the flow conditioners such as described in U.S. Patent No. 4,002,770 issued January 11, 1977 and assigned to General Foods Corporation. The technique of color plating is accomplished by separately coating phosphates especially tricalcium phosphate by dispersion in a solution or slurry of water-soluble solutes which is thereafter dried to a desired reduced moisture content of, say below 0.75%, depending upon the level of such coloring agent that is employed, the flowability and clumping problems are greatly eliminated. The need to rely upon a coloring solution such as an adjunct to edify the beverage mix can be substantially reduced or eliminated. The amount of color present will depend on the hue desired in the final product. The colored flow conditioner can be present in the beverage mix in amounts from about 0.05 to about 8% by weight of the total beverage mix, preferably from about 1 to about 5 weight percent of the total beverage mix.

The flavors which are used in the preparation of the beverage mix of this invention include natural and artificial flavors. The natural food flavors include tangerine, grapefruit, grape, lemon, lime, orange among others. The flavors used herein are generally slow water-soluble ingredients and are generally finely divided particles. The slow water-solubility of these ingredients create appearance problems in the final beverage mix but by the process of this invention, these problems are overcome. The amounts of flavor or flavors in the final beverage mix can be present over a wide range depending on the resulting flavor desired. The amounts of flavors present range 1 to about 50 weight percent, preferably about 5 to about 15 weight percent of the total beverage mix.

In the production of a beverage mix wherein it is desired to have a clouding or dispersing agent added to give the final mix a natural fruit drink appearance, the clouding agent such as food grade titanium dioxide, titanium dioxide - food starch or gum blends or oil based clouding agents and are mixed with food acid(s), flow conditioner(s) and slow-water soluble flavor(s) in the first mixing step of the process of this invention. It is essential that the clouding agent in the final beverage mix readily disperses on the addition of water while the rapidly water-soluble ingredients are going into solution. It has been found that a polysaccharide gum such as xanthan gum may not permit the clouding agent to disperse readily. In this process, if pectin is combined with a clouding agent such as titanium dioxide and a malto-dextrin, the dispersion of the clouding agent readily occurs in the aqueous beverage solution. Other gums which may be satisfactory include carrageenan, guar gum, agar-agar, sodium alinate and the like. Thus, using the process of this invention, the careful selection of clouding agents are essential to achieve the desired result. The amount of clouding agent present in the dry beverage mix range from 0.01 to about 15 weight percent, preferably from about 0.1 to about 10 weight percent depending on turbidity desired and type of clouding agent.

The process of this invention provides a rapidly water-soluble, free-flowing, substantially sugar-free dry beverage mix which can be sweetened after the ready-to-drink beverage is prepared or can contain high potency artificial sweetener such as saccharine cyclamate, APM and the like. The amount of artificial sweetener present in the beverage can vary over a wide range depending on the level of sweetness desired. These amounts can range from about 0.01 to about 10 weight percent of the total beverage mix, preferably about 1 to about 6 weight percent of the total beverage mix.

In the beverage mixes made by this process of the invention, it is desired but not essential to add buffers such as potassium citrate, trisodium citrate, monocalcium phosphate, and the like that the ready-to-drink beverage will maintain the desired pH range of the drink. Preferred buffers are those which are rapidly water-soluble, having coarse particles and will not interfere with the taste or flavors. These are known to those skilled in the art. The most preferred buffer for this process is potassium citrate. The amount of buffers present in the total beverage mix ranges from about 0.5 to about 15 weight percent, preferably from about 1 to about 8 weight percent of the total beverage mix.

The type of mixes used in the mixing of the coarse and fine particle ingredients can be any mixes which will provide a substantially uniformly dispersed dry product. These mixers can include a Ribbon Blender, Hobart Blender, Paddle Blender, V-Blender, Twin Cone, and the like. The preferred blender is a Ribbon Blender.

The processes of this invention are further illustrated by the following examples:

EXAMPLE 1

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The following ingredients were placed in a 4,25 l (4.5 quart) stainless steel bowl:

5	Citric Acid (coarse particles) Potassium Citrate (coarse particles) Natural Lemon Flavor (fine particles) Tricalcium Phosphate (fine particles) Natural Lime Flavor (fine particles) Tartrazine and Blue Coloring (fine particles)	174.8 grams 3.96 grams 19.02 grams 8.36 grams 3.18 grams 0.023 grams
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10 The above ingredients were mixed on a Kitchen Aid food preparer with a flat beater at speed setting 2 for 5 minutes. Then 8.88 grams agglomerated corn dextrin (D.E.-9 to 12) and 11.98 grams finely divided APM were added to the bowl and all ingredients mixed for additional 10 minutes. The resulting dry mixed beverage mix was uniformly dispersed. When prepared by adding 1500 cc of water to 11.6 grams of mix,
15 the mix dissolved rapidly in less than 5 seconds with virtually no stirring. Add the mix to water, the mix dissolved quickly. Mixing all the ingredients together in one mix did not provide the rapidly water-soluble beverage mix. It should be noted that the initial mixing step requires that a uniform dispersement of the product is necessary prior to the addition of the APM and agglomerated corn dextrin. Additionally, premixing the APM and the agglomerated corn dextrin, then mixing this premix to the mix in the first step,
20 will not provide a rapidly water-soluble beverage mix.

EXAMPLE 2

The following ingredients to prepare an orange beverage mix were placed in a Ribbon Blender:

25		kg	lbs
	Citric Acid (coarse particles)	24.5	53.9
30	Tricalcium Phosphate (fine particles)	3.75	8.27
	*Titanium Dioxide Cloud (fine particles)	1.31	2.88
	Orange Flavor (fine particles)	8.15	17.96
	Potassium Citrate Monohydrate (coarse particles)	2.89	6.37
35	Tartrazine (yellow-orange) Acid and Yellow Coloring (fine particles)	0.139	0.35

35 *Spray-dried blend of 15 D.E. corn dextrin, pectin and food grade titanium dioxide (fine particles) at 25% maximum solids.

The above ingredients were blended for 5 minutes to obtain a uniformly dispersed dry product. Then 3.94kg (8.68 lbs) agglomerated (coarse particles) corn dextrin (D.E. 9 to 12) and 2.06kg (4.54 lbs) of APM (fine particles) were blended for 10 minutes into the blended ingredients in the first mix. The resulting product was rapidly water-soluble and the titanium dioxide dispersed readily providing a permanent cloud effect.

EXAMPLE 3

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The following ingredients to prepare a citrus blend beverage mix were placed in a Ribbon Blender:

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		kg	lbs
5	Citric Acid (coarse particles)	24.5	54.0
	*Titanium Dioxide Cloud (fine particles)	2.68	5.9
	Citrus Blend Flavor (fine particles)	4.36	9.6
	Potassium Citrate Monohydrate (coarse particles)	3.41	7.5
	Tangerine Flavor (fine particles)	1.72	3.8
	Tricalcium Phosphate and Orange Color (fine particles)	1.68	3.7
10	Tricalcium Phosphate (fine particles)	0.99	2.19
	Grapefruit Flavor (fine particles)	0.19	0.43
	Sunset Yellow Coloring	0.0027	0.006

*Spray-dried blend of 15 D.E. corn dextrin, pectin and food acid titanium dioxide (fine particles) at 25% maximum solids.

15 The above ingredients were blended for 5 minutes to obtain a uniformly dispersed dry product. Then
 20 3.94kg (8.68 lbs.) agglomerated (coarse particles) corn dextrin D.E. (9 to 12) and 2.06kg (4.54 lbs) APM
 (fine particles) were blended for 10 minutes into the blended ingredients in the first mix. The resulting
 25 product was rapidly water-soluble and the titanium dioxide dispersed readily providing a permanent cloud
 effect.

Claims

1. A process for preparing a rapidly water-soluble, free-flowing, substantially sugar-free dry beverage mix
 25 comprising the ingredients of at least one food acid, at least one flavor and at least one flow conditioner, the steps comprising a first intimate dry mixing of the coarse particles of at least one rapid water-soluble food acid with the finely divided particles of at least one slow water-soluble flavor and at least one of a slow water-soluble flow conditioner to obtain a substantially uniform dispersion of said rapidly water-soluble food acid and said slow water-soluble flavor and conditioner and a second
 30 intimately dry mixing of the said uniform dispersion composition of the first mixing step with a maltodextrin having coarse particles and a dextrose equivalency in the range from 5 to 20, said mixing continued until the resulting product is water-soluble, said coarse particles being of a size wherein 100% pass through a US screen size of 2.00 mm (10 mesh) and up to 95% remain on a US screen size of 150 µm (100 mesh) and said finely divided particles being of a size wherein 100% pass through
 35 a US screen size of 850 µm (20 mesh) and 40-100% pass through a US screen size of 75 µm (200 mesh), and the term "rapidly water-soluble" meaning that the water-soluble materials dissolve without clumping within 5 seconds, if 10 cubic centimeters of any given raw material ingredient is added to 150 milliliters of water at 4°C. and hand stirred.
- 40 2. The process according to Claim 1 wherein an artificial sweetener is intimately mixed in the second mixing step.
3. A process according to either of Claims 1 and 2 wherein the artificial sweetener is the methyl ester
 45 of L-aspartyl-L-Phenylalanine
4. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 3 wherein the fine particles of the slow water-soluble natural fruit flavors are selected from tangerine, grapefruit, grape, lemon, lime and orange.
5. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 4 wherein the coarse particles of rapidly water-soluble food acids are selected from citric acid, tartaric acid and malic acid.
6. A process according to any one of Claims 1 to 5 wherein the flow conditioner is selected from tricalcium phosphate, monocalcium phosphate, dicalcium phosphate, magnesium oxide, silicon dioxide and sodium silicate.
- 55 7. A process according to any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein a coloring is added to the ingredients to provide the desired coloring effect.

8. A process according to claim 2 wherein the ingredients comprise:
 1. a combination of rapidly water-soluble food acids of citric, malic and tartaric acid;
 2. a slow water-soluble grape flavor;
 3. potassium citrate as a buffer;
 4. the methyl ester of L-aspartyl-L-phenyl alanine as a sweetener;
 5. coarse particles of corn dextrin having a dextrose equivalent from 9 to 12 and;
 6. magnesium oxide as a flow conditioner.
9. A process according to claim 2 wherein the ingredients comprise:
 1. citric acid
 2. a combination of a citrus blend of tangerine and grapefruit flavors
 3. potassium citrate;
 4. the methyl ester of L-aspartyl-L-phenylalanine;
 5. coarse particles of corn dextrin having a dextrose equivalent from 9 to 12 and;
 6. a combination of yellow color plated tricalcium phosphate and tricalcium phosphate flow conditioners.
10. A process according to claim 2 wherein the ingredients comprise:
 1. citric acid;
 2. lemon flavor;
 3. potassium citrate;
 4. the methyl ester of L-aspartyl-L-phenylalanine;
 5. corn dextrin having coarse particles and a dextrose equivalent of about 9 to about 12 and;
 6. tricalcium phosphate;
11. A process according to claim 10 wherein lime is added as an additional flavor.
12. A process according to claim 2 wherein the ingredients comprise:
 1. citric acid;
 2. tricalcium phosphate;
 3. titanium dioxide as a clouding material;
 4. orange flavor;
 5. potassium citrate;
 6. the methyl ester of L-aspartyl-L-phenylalanine and;
 7. coarse particles of corn dextrin having a dextrose equivalent form 9 to 12.

Revendications

1. Procédé pour la préparation d'un mélange de boisson sec, rapidement soluble dans l'eau, ne contenant pas de sucre et de fluidité élevée, comprenant comme ingrédients au moins un acide alimentaire, au moins un arôme et au moins un conditionneur de fluidité, les étapes comprenant un premier mélange sec intime des grosses particules d'au moins un acide alimentaire rapidement soluble dans l'eau avec les particules finement divisées d'au moins un arôme lentement soluble dans l'eau et d'au moins un conditionneur de fluidité lentement soluble dans l'eau, pour obtenir une dispersion pratiquement uniforme dudit acide alimentaire rapidement soluble dans l'eau et desdits arôme et conditionneur lentement solubles dans l'eau et un second mélange sec intime de ladite composition de dispersion uniforme de la première étape de mélange avec une malto-dextrine ayant de grosses particules et une équivalence en dextrose de l'ordre de 5 à 20, ledit mélange s'est poursuivi jusqu'à ce que le produit qui en résulte soit soluble dans l'eau, lesdites grosses particules étant d'une taille où 100 % passent par un tamis US de 2,00 mm (10 mesh) et 95 % au maximum restent sur un tamis US de 150 µm (100 mesh) et lesdites particules finement divisées étant d'une taille où 100 % passent par un tamis US de 850 µm (20 mesh) et 40 à 100% passent par un tamis US de 75 µm (200 mesh), et l'expression "rapidement soluble dans l'eau" signifiant que les matières solubles dans l'eau se dissolvent sans s'agglomérer en 5 secondes, si l'on ajoute 10 centimètres cubes d'une quelconque matière première donnée, à 150 millilitres d'eau à 4°C et si l'on agite le tout à la main.
2. Procédé selon la revendication 1 où un adoucissant artificiel est mélangé intimement dans la seconde étape de mélange.

3. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 et 2 où l'adoucissant artificiel est de l'ester méthylique de L-aspartyl-L-phénylalanine.
4. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 3 où les fines particules des arômes de fruits naturels lentement solubles dans l'eau sont sélectionnés à partir des mandarine, pamplemousse, raisin, citron, citron vert et orange.
5. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 4 où les grosses particules d'acides alimentaires rapidement solubles dans l'eau sont sélectionnées à partir de l'acide citrique, de l'acide tartrique et de l'acide malique.
10. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 5 où le conditionneur de fluidité est sélectionné à partir du phosphate tricalcique, du phosphate monocalcique, du diphosphate de chaux, de l'oxyde de magnésium, du dioxyde de silicium et du silicate de sodium.
15. Procédé selon l'une quelconque des revendications 1 à 6 où un colorant est ajouté aux ingrédients pour donner l'effet de coloration souhaité.
8. Procédé selon la revendication 2 où les ingrédients comprennent :
 20. 1. une combinaison d'acides alimentaires rapidement solubles dans l'eau d'acides citrique, malique et tartrique ;
 2. un arôme de raisin lentement soluble dans l'eau ;
 3. un citrate de potassium comme réactif tampon ;
 4. l'ester méthylique de L-aspartyl-L-phénylalanine en tant qu'adoucissant ;
 25. 5. de grosses particules de dextrine de blé ayant une dextrose équivalente à 9 - 12 et ;
 6. de l'oxyde de magnésium comme conditionneur de fluidité.
9. Procédé selon la revendication 2 où les ingrédients comprennent :
 30. 1. de l'acide citrique ;
 2. une combinaison de mélange d'agrumes d'arômes de mandarine et de pamplemousse ;
 3. du citrate de potassium ;
 4. l'ester méthylique de L-aspartyl-L-phénylalanine ;
 35. 5. de grosses particules de dextrine de blé ayant une dextrose équivalente à 9 - 12 et ;
 6. une combinaison de conditionneurs de phosphate tricalcique et de phosphate tricalcique coloré en jaune.
10. Procédé selon la revendication 2 où les ingrédients comprennent :
 40. 1. de l'acide citrique ;
 2. un arôme de citron ;
 3. du citrate de potassium ;
 4. l'ester méthylique de L-aspartyl-L-phénylalanine ;
 5. de la dextrine de blé ayant de grosses particules et une dextrose équivalente à environ 9 et environ 12 et ;
 45. 6. du phosphate tricalcique ;
11. Procédé selon la revendication 10 où le citron vert est ajouté comme un arôme supplémentaire.
12. Procédé selon la revendication 2 où les ingrédients comprennent :
 50. 1. de l'acide citrique ;
 2. du phosphate tricalcique ;
 3. du blanc de titane comme agent de turbidité ;
 4. un arôme d'orange ;
 5. du citrate de potassium ;
 55. 6. l'ester méthylique de L-aspartyl-L-phénylalanine ;
 7. de grosses particules de dextrine de blé ayant une dextrose équivalente à 9 - 12.

Patentansprüche

1. Verfahren zum Herstellen eines schnell wasserlöslichen, rieselfähigen, im wesentlichen zuckerfreien Getränk-Trockengemisches mit folgenden Bestandteilen: mindestens eine Lebensmittelsäure, mindestens ein Aromastoff und mindestens ein Fließkonditioniermittel, mit folgenden Schritten: mindestens eine großkörnige, schnell wasserlösliche Lebensmittelsäure wird trocken mit mindestens einem feinverteilten, langsam wasserlöslichen Aromastoff und mindestens einem langsam wasserlöslichen Fließkonditionierungsmittel zu einer im wesentlichen einheitlichen Dispersion der schnell wasserlöslichen Lebensmittelsäure, des langsam wasserlöslichen Aromastoffes und des Konditionierungsmittels gemischt, in einem zweiten Trockenmischtorgang wird die im ersten Mischvorgang erhaltene einheitliche Dispersion mit einem grobkörnigen Maltodextrin mit einem Traubenzuckeräquivalent im Bereich von 5 bis 20 gründlich gemischt und zwar solange, bis das erhaltene Produkt wasserlöslich ist, wobei das grobkörnige Gut eine solche Korngröße hat, daß 100% durch ein US-Sieb mit einer Maschenweite von 2,00 mm (10 mesh) hindurchtreten und bis zu 95% auf einem US-Sieb mit einer Maschenweite von 150 µm (100 mesh) zurückgehalten werden, das feinverteilte Gut eine solche Korngröße hat, daß 100% durch ein US-Sieb mit einer Maschenweite von 350 µm (20 mesh) hindurchtreten und 40 bis 100% durch ein US-Sieb mit einer Maschenweite von 75 µm (200 mesh) hindurchtreten und der Ausdruck "schnell wasserlöslich" bedeutet, daß bei der Zugebe eines gegebenen Rohbestandteils zu 150 ml Wasser bei 4°C und manuellem Rühren die wasserlöslichen Substanzen sich innerhalb 5 Sekunden klumpenfrei auflösen.
2. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß im zweiten Mischschritt ein künstlicher Süßstoff gründlich beigemischt wird.
3. Verfahren nach Anspruch 1 oder 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß der künstliche Süßstoff der Methylester des L-Aspartyl-L-phenylalanins ist.
4. Verfahren nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 3, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die feinkörnigen, langsam wasserlöslichen, natürlichen Fruchtaromastoffe aus Tangerin, Pampelmuse, Weintrauben, Limonen, Limonellen und Orangen ausgewählt sind.
5. Verfahren nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 4, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß die grobkörnigen, schnell wasserlöslichen Lebensmittelsäuren aus Zitronensäure, Weinstinsäure und Apfelsäure ausgewählt sind.
6. Verfahren nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 5, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß das Fließkonditionierungsmittel aus Tricalciumphosphat, Monocalciumphosphat, Dicalciumphosphat, Magnesiumoxid, Siliciumdioxid und Natriumsilikat ausgewählt ist.
7. Verfahren nach einem der Ansprüche 1 bis 6, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß den Bestandteilen zum Erzielen der gewünschten Färbung ein färbender Stoff zugesetzt wird.
8. Verfahren nach Anspruch 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß zu den Bestandteilen gehören:
 1. eine Kombination von schnell wasserlöslichen Lebensmittelsäuren aus Zitronen-, Apfel- und Weinstinsäure;
 2. ein langsam wasserlöslicher Weintraubenaromastoff;
 3. Kaliumzitrat als Puffer;
 4. der Methylester von L-Aspartyl-L-phenylalanin als Süßstoff;
 5. grobkörniges Maisdextrin mit einem Traubenzuckeräquivalent von 9 bis 12 und
 6. Magnesiumoxid als Fließkonditionierungsmittel.
9. Verfahren nach Anspruch 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß zu den Bestandteilen gehören:
 1. Zitronensäure;
 2. eine Kombination in Form eines Zitrusfruchtgemisches aus Tangerin und Pampelmusenaromastoffen;
 3. Kaliumzitrat;
 4. der Methylester des L-Aspartyl-L-phenylalanins;
 5. grobkörniges Maisdextrin mit einem Traubenzuckeräquivalent von 9 bis 12 und
 6. eine Kombination von mit gelbem färbendem Stoff überzogenem Tricalciumphosphat und Tricalciumphosphat als Fließkonditionierungsmittel.

10. Verfahren nach Anspruch 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß zu den Bestandteilen gehören:

1. Zitronensäure;
2. Limonellenaromastoff;
3. Kaliumzitrat;
4. der Methylester des L-Aspartyl-L-phenylalanins;
5. grobkörniges Maisdextrin mit einem Traubenzuckeräquivalent von etwa 9 bis etwa 12 und
6. Tricalciumphosphat.

11. Verfahren nach Anspruch 10, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß als zusätzlicher Aromastoff Limonelle
10 zugesetzt wird.

12. Verfahren nach Anspruch 2, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß zu den Bestandteilen gehören:

1. Zitronensäure;
2. Tricalciumphosphat;
3. Titandioxid als Trübungsmittel;
4. Orangenaromastoff;
5. Kaliumzitrat;
6. der Methylester des L-Aspartyl-L-phenylalanins und
7. grobkörniges Maisdextrin mit dem Traubenzuckeräquivalent von 9 bis 12.

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